THE HVMBLE DESIRES AND PROPOSITIONS OF THE LORDS and COMMONS in PARLIAMENT assembled:

Tendered to His MAJESTY
1. *February*, 1642.

WITH

HIS MAIESTIES

Gratious Answer thereunto.

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THE HVMBLE DESIRES, AND PROPOSITIONS of the LORDS and COMMONS *in Parliament assembled,* *tendred to His* MAJESTY 1. *February*, 1642.

WEE, Your Majesties most humble and faithfull Subjects, the Lords and Commons in Parliament assembled, having in our thoughts the Glory of God, Your Majesties Honour, and the prosperity of Your people; and being most grievously afflicted with the pressing miseries and Calamities, which have overwhelmed your two Kingdoms of *England* and *Ireland*, since Your Majesty hath, by the perswasion of evill Counsellors, withdrawn Your selfe from the Parliament, raised an Army against it, and, by force thereof, protected Delinquents from the Iustice of it, constraining us to take Armes for the defence of our Religi-

on, Lawes, Liberties, Priviledges of Parliament, and for the Sitting of the Parliament in ſafety; which feares and dangers are continued and increaſed by the raiſing, drawing together, and Arming of great numbers of Papiſts under the command of the Earle of *Newcaſtle*; likewiſe by making the Lord *Herbert* of *Ragland*, and other known Papiſts, commanders of great forces; whereby many grievous oppreſſions, rapines, and cruelties, have been and are daily exerciſed upon the Perſons and Eſtates of Your people; much innocent blood hath been ſpilt, and the Papiſts have attained means of attempting, with hopes of effecting their miſchievous deſigne, of rooting out the Reformed Religion, and deſtroying the profeſſors thereof. In the tender ſenſe and compaſſion of theſe evills, under which Your People & Kingdom lye (according to the duty which we owe to God, Your Majeſty, and the Kingdome, for which we are truſted) doe moſt earneſtly deſire, that an end may be put to theſe great diſtempers and diſtractions, for the preventing of that deſolation which doth threaten all your Majeſties dominions. And as wee have rendred, and ſtill are ready to render to Your Majeſty that ſubjection obedience and ſervice, which we owe unto you: So we moſt humbly beſeech Your Majeſty to remove the cauſes of this Warre, and to vouchſafe us that Peace and Protection, which We and our Anceſtors have formerly enjoyed under Your Majeſty, and Your Royall Predeceſſors, and gratiouſly to accept and graunt theſe our moſt humble deſires, and Propoſitions.

1. That Your Majeſty will be pleaſed to dis-band Your Armies, as we likewiſe ſhall be ready to dis-band all thoſe forces which we have raiſed, and that You will be pleaſed to Returne to Your Parliament.

2.

2. That You will leave Delinquents to a Legall tryall and Iudgement of Parliament.

3. That the Papists may not only be dis-banded, but dis-armed according to Law.

4. That Your Majesty will be pleased to give Your Royall assent unto the Bill for taking away Superstitious Innovations; to the Bill for the utter abolishing and taking away of all Arch-bishops, Bishops, their Chancellors and Commissaries, Deanes, Sub-deanes, Deanes and Chapters, Arch-Deacons, Canons, and Prebendaries, and all Chaunters, Chauncellors, Treasurers, Subtreasurers, Succentors, and Sacrists, and all Vicars Chorall and Choristers, old Vicars, and new Vicars of any Cathedrall or Collegiate Church, & all other their under officers, out of the Church of England; to the Bill against scandalous Ministers; to the Bill against Pluralities; and to the Bill for Consultation to be had with Godly Religious and learned Divines; that Your Majesty will be pleased to promise to passe such other good Bills for setling of Church-Government, as upon consultation with the assembly of the said Divines, shall be resolved on by both Houses of Parliament, and by them be presented to Your Majesty.

5. That Your Majesty having expresst, in Your answer to the Ninteen Propositions of both Houses of Parliament, a hearty affection and intention for the rooting out of Popery out of this Kingdome, and that if both the Houses of Parliament can yet find a more Effectuall Course to disable Iesuites, Priests, and Popish Recusants from disturbing the State, or deluding the Lawes, that You would willingly give Your consent unto it; that You would be gratiously pleased, for the better discovery & speedier conviction of Recusants, That an Oath may be

eſtabliſhed by Act of Parliament, to be adminiſtred in ſuch manner as by both Houſes ſhall be agreed on; wherein they ſhall abjure and renounce the Popes Supremacy, the doctrine of Tranſubſtantiation, Purgatory, Worſhiping of the conſecrated Hoaſt, Crucifixes and Images; and the refuſing of the ſaid Oath, being tendred in ſuch manner as ſhall be appointed by Act of Parliament, ſhall be a ſufficient conviction in Law of Recuſancy. And that Your Majeſty will be gratiouſly pleaſed to give Your Royall aſſent unto a Bill for the Education of the Children of Papiſts by Proteſtants, in the Proteſtant Religion. That, for the more Effectuall execution of the Lawes againſt Popiſh Recuſants, Your Majeſty would be pleaſed to conſent to a Bill for the true levying of the Penalties againſt them, and that the ſame Penalties may be levyed and diſpoſed of in ſuch manner as both Houſes of Parliament ſhall agree on, ſo as Your Majeſty be at no loſſe: And likewiſe to a Bill whereby the practice of Papiſts againſt the State may be prevented, and the Lawes againſt them duly executed.

6. That the Earle of *Briſtoll* may be removed from Your Majeſties Councells; and that both he, and the Lord *Herbert*, Eldeſt ſonne to the Earle of *Worceſter*, may likewiſe be reſtrained from comming within the Verge of the Court; and that they may not beare any office or have any Employments concerning the State or Commonwealth.

7. That Your Majeſty will be gratiouſly pleaſed by Act of Parliament to ſettle the Militia, both by Sea and Land, and for the Forts and Ports of the Kingdome, in ſuch a manner as ſhall be agreed on by both Houſes.

8. That Your Majeſty will be pleaſed by Your Letters Patents, to make Sir *Iohn Brampſton* Chiefe Iuſtice of

of Your Court of Kings Bench, *William Lenthall* Esqu. the now Speaker of the Commons house, Master of the Rolls, and to continue the Ld Chief Iustice *Banks* Chiefe Iustice of the Court of common-Pleas, and likewise to make Mr Serjeant *Wild* Chief Baron of Your Court of Exchequer, and that Mr Iustice Bacon may be continued, and Mr Serjeant *Rolls*, and Mr Serjeant *Atkins* made Iustices of the Kings Bench, that Mr Iustice *Reeves*, and Mr Iustice *Foster* may be continued, & Mr Serjeant *Pheasant* made one of the Iustices of Your Court of Common-Pleas, That Mr Serjeant *Creswell*, Mr *Samuell Browne*, and Mr *Iohn Puleston* may be Barons of the Exchequer: and that all these, & all the Iudges of the same Courts, for the time to come, may hold their places by Letters patents, under the great Seale, *Quàm diù se benè gesserint*; and that the severall persons not before named, that doe hold any of these places before mentioned, may be removed.

9. That all such Persons as have beene put out of the Commissions of peace, or *Oyer* and *Terminer*, or from being *Custodes Rotulorum*, since the first day of *Aprill*. 1642. (other then such as were put out by desire of both or either of the Houses of Parliament) may againe be put into those Commissions and Offices, and that such persons may be put out of those Commissions and Offices as shall be excepted against by both Houses of Parliament.

10. That Your Majesty will be pleased to passe the Bill now presented to Your Majesty, to vindicate and secure the Priviledges of Parliament from the ill consequence of the late precedent in the charge and proceeding against the Ld *Kimbolton* now Earle of *Manchester*, and the five Members of the House of Commons.

11. That Your Majesties Royall assent may be given unto such Acts as shall be advised by both Houses of Parliament,

liament, for the ſatisfying and paying the Debts and Damages wherein the two Houſes of Parliament have engaged the publike Faith of the Kingdome.

12 That Your Majeſty will be pleaſed, according to a gratious Anſwer heretofore received from you, to enter into a more ſtrict Allyance with the States of the united Provinces, and other neighbour Princes and States of the Proteſtant Religion, for the defence and maintenance thereof againſt all deſignes and attempts of the Popiſh & Ieſuiticall faction, to ſubvert and ſuppreſſe it, whereby Your Subjects may hope to be free from the Miſchiefes which this Kingdome hath endured, through the power which ſome of that party have had in your Counſell, and will be much encouraged in a Parliamentary way for Your Ayd & Aſſiſtance, in reſtoring Your Royall Siſter, and the Prince *Elector* to thoſe Dignities and Dominions which belong unto them, and the Releeving the other diſtreſſed Proteſtant Princes, who have ſuffered in the ſame cauſe.

13 That in the generall Pardon, which Your Majeſty hath beene pleaſed to offer to Your Subjects, all offences and miſdemeanours committed before the tenth of *January*, 1641. which have been or ſhall be Queſtioned or proceeded againſt in Parliament, upon complaint in the Houſe of Commons before the tenth of *January*, 1643. ſhall be excepted, which offences and miſdemeanours ſhall nevertheleſſe be taken and adjudged to be fully diſcharged againſt all other inferiour Courts. That likewiſe there ſhall be an exception of all Offences committed by any perſon or perſons which hath or have had any hand or practice in the Rebellion of *Ireland*, which hath or have given any Counſell, aſſiſtance or Incouragement to the Rebells there, for the maintenance of that Rebellion;

as

As likewiſe an Exception of *William* Earle of *Newcaſtle*, and *George* Lord *Digby*.

14 That Your Majeſty will be pleaſed to reſtore ſuch Members of either Houſe of Parliament to their ſeverall places of ſervice and employment out of which they have been put ſince the beginning of this Parliament, that they may receive ſatisfaction and reparation for thoſe places, and for the profits which they have loſt by ſuch removalls upon the petition of both Houſes of Parliament, and that all others may be reſtored to their Offices, & Employments, who have been put out of the ſame upon any diſpleaſure conceived againſt them for any aſſiſtance given to both Houſes of Parliament, or obeying their Commands, or forbearing to leave their attendance upon the Parliament, without licence, or for any other occaſion ariſing from theſe unhappy differences betwixt Your Majeſty & both Houſes of Parliament, upon the like Petition of both Houſes.

Theſe things being granted and performed, as it hath alwayes been our hearty prayer, ſo ſhall we be inabled to make it our hopefull endeavour, that Your Majeſty and Your People may enjoy the bleſſings of Peace, Truth, and Iuſtice; The Royalty and greatneſſe of your Throne may be ſupported by the Loyall and Bountifull affections of Your People; their Liberties and Priviledges maintained by Your Majeſties protection and Iuſtice; and this publike Honour & happineſſe of Your Majeſty and all Your Dominions communicated to other Churches and States of Your Allyance, & derived to Your Royall Poſterity, and the future Generations in this Kingdome for Ever.

HIS MAIESTIES

GRATIOUS ANSWER TO the fore going Demands *and Propoſitions.*

IF His Majeſty had not given up all the Faculties of His Soule to an earneſt endeavour of a Peace and Reconciliation with His People, or if He would ſuffer Himſelfe by any Provocation to be drawn to a ſharpneſſe of Language, at a time when there ſeemes ſomewhat like an Overture of Accommodation, He could not but reſent the heavy Charges upon Him in the Preamble of theſe Propoſitions, and would not ſuffer Himſelfe to

be reproached with protecting of Delinquents, by force, from Iuſtice: (His Majeſties deſire having alwayes been, that all men ſhould be tride by the knowne Law, & having been refus'd it;) with raiſing an Army againſt His Parliament; and to be told that Armes have been taken up againſt Him, for the defence of Religion, Lawes, Liberties, Priviledges of Parliament, and for the ſitting of the Parliament in ſafety, with many other particulars in that Preamble, ſo often and ſo fully anſwered by His Majeſty, without remembring the world of the time and Circumſtãces of raiſing thoſe Arms againſt Him: When His Majeſty was ſo farre from being in a Condition to invade other mens Rights, that He was not able to maintaine and defend His owne from violence; and without telling His good Subjects that their Religion, (the true Proteſtant Religion in which His Majeſty was borne, hath faithfully lived, and to which He will dye a willing Sacrifice,) their Lawes, Liberties, Priviledges, and ſafety of Parliament were ſo amply ſetled and eſtabliſhed, or offered to be ſo by His Majeſty before any Army was raiſed againſt Him, and long before any raiſed by Him for His Defence, that if nothing had been deſired

but

but that Peace and protection which His Subjects and their Anceſtors had in the beſt times enjoyed under His Majeſty, or His Royall Predeceſſors, this miſunderſtanding and Diſtance betweene His Majeſty and His People, and this generall miſery and Diſtraction upon the Face of the whole Kingdome, had not been now the diſcourſe of Chriſtendome. But His Majeſty will forbeare any Expreſsions of Bitternes, or of a ſenſe of His owne ſufferings, that, if it be poſsible, the memory thereof may be loſt to the world. And therefore though many of the Propoſitions preſented to His Majeſty by both Houſes, appeare to Him very derogatory from, and deſtructive to His juſt Power and Prerogative, and no way beneficiall to His Subjects, few of them being already due to them, by the Lawes eſtabliſhed, (and how unparliamentary it is, by Armes to require new Lawes all the world may judge,) yet (becauſe theſe may be waved or mollified, and many things that are now darke, or doubtfull in them cleered, and explaned upon debate) His Majeſty is pleaſed (ſuch is his ſenſe of the miſeries this Kingdome ſuffers by this unnaturall Warre, and his earneſt deſire to remove them by a happy Peace)

that a ſpeedy time and place be agreed upon for the meeting of ſuch Perſons, as His Majeſty and both Houſes ſhall appoint, to diſcuſſe theſe Propoſitions, and ſuch others here following, as His Majeſty doth propoſe to them.

1. That His Majeſties owne Revenue, Magazines, Townes, Forts, and Ships, which have been taken or kept from Him by Force, be forthwith reſtored unto Him.

2. That whatſoever hath been done or publiſhed contrary to the knowne Lawes of the Land, or derogatory to His Majeſties Legall and knowne Power and Rights, be renounced and recalled; That no ſeed may remaine for the like to ſpring out of for the future.

3. That whatſoever illegall power hath been claimed and exerciſed by or over His Subjects, as Impriſoning their Perſons without Law, ſtopping their *Habeas Corpuſſes*, and Impoſing upon their Eſtates without Act of Parliament, &c. either by both or either Houſe, or any Committee of both or either, or by any Perſons appointed by any of them, be diſclaimed, and all ſuch Perſons ſo committed forthwith diſcharged.

4.

4. That as His MAJESTY will readily consent (having done so heretofore) to the Execution of all Lawes already made, and to any good Acts to be made, for the suppressing of Popery, and for the firme setling of the Protestant Religion now established by Law; so He desires that a good Bill may be framed for the better preserving the Book of Common-Prayer, from the Scorne and violence of Brownists, Anabaptists, and other Sectaries, with such clauses for the Ease of tender Consciences as His Majesty hath formerly offered.

5. That all such Persons, as upon the Treaty shall be excepted out of the Generall Pardon, shall be tryed *Per Pares*, according to the usuall course and Known Law of the Land, and that it be left to that, either to acquit or condemne them.

6. And to the intent this Treaty may not suffer interruption by any intervening Accidents, That a Cessation of Armes, and free Trade for all His Majesties Subjects may be first agreed upon.

This offer and Desire of His Majesty, He hopes will be so cheerfully entertained, that a speedy and blessed Peace may be accomplished:

If

If it ſhall be rejected, or, by inſiſting upon unreaſonable circumſtances, be made impoſſible, (which He hopes God in his mercy to this Nation will not ſuffer,) the guilt of the Blood which will be ſhed, and the Deſolation which muſt follow, will lye upon the Heads of the Refuſers. However His Majeſty is reſolved through what Accidents ſoever He ſhall be compelled to recover his Rights, and with what proſperous ſucceſſes ſoever it ſhall pleaſe God to bleſſe Him, that by His earneſt, conſtant Endeavours to propagate and promote the true Proteſtant Religion, and by His governing according to the known Lawes of the Land, and upholding the juſt Priviledges of Parliament, according to His frequent Proteſtations made before Almighty God, which He will alwaies inviolably obſerve, the World ſhall ſee that He hath undergone all theſe Difficulties and hazards for the Defence and maintenance of thoſe; The zealous preſervation of which, His Majeſty well knowes, is the only foundation and means for the true happineſſe of Him and His People.

FINIS.